

## **“WRAP IT UP”**

***BY Floyd Thomas Pratt F.H.C., M.A.G.I.***

After my heart attack in 2012, I asked the Lord, “After 38 years of family history research, is this what you want me to do for the rest of my life?” As I waited for the still quiet voice...I have come to know and love as the voice of the Holy Ghost, I heard these words; unlike any I have ever heard him say before...”Wrap it up”.

Of course, being a dutiful servant, I immediately doubled my efforts and began to increase my workload and family history research...contrary to the advice and wisdom of the Holy Ghost. I did not heed his advice. Luckily for me the Lord believes in second chances.

In 2014, we were contemplating a move from Florida to Colorado to be near our grandchildren and not really having my heart set on the trip, in fact I was fighting the idea, I asked the Lord if this is wisdom and wanted to know what he wants me to do. Again, I heard the still quiet voice say, “Lose some weight so you can fit into your suit and prepare, for I have work for you to do in Colorado.”

It has been 8 months since our arrival in Aurora, Colorado and I have lost 35 pounds and can now fit in my suit. Bonnie and I have been called as Family History Consultants in the Sable Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Coupled with that calling and having a skill-set learned over 38 years of family history research, we also gladly accepted a calling as co-instructors of the family history training course titled “Temple and Family History Work” for the Sable Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Most likely due to our advanced age and health, this will be the last opportunity we have to teach this course together. Were Colorado has improved my health, Bonnie being 3 years older than I, is showing signs of fatigued and forgetfulness.

Seeing the writing on the wall, it looks like I will be spending more and more time serving her and her needs and less and less time working on family history.

As I pondered the 300 books, article and stories I have written during my 38-year tenure in the family history genre, I became concerned, concerning the preservation of those literary compositions. These bodies of work were so laboriously created for the benefit of my family, relatives, friends and fellow family history researchers, I hope they would not perish but be preserved for future generations.

As always, when troubled with a monumental perplexing decision, I took my concerns to the Lord and expressed my feelings concerning our thousands of pages of family history work. I consider the Savior as the author with myself as co-author of this work and he too has a vested interest in the preservation of this work.

After, a few days waiting and weighing all my options, the Holy Ghost informed me it was the Lord’s desire I post all my complete works online at two websites namely; [www.openlibrary.com](http://www.openlibrary.com) and [www.internetarchive.org](http://www.internetarchive.org).

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Seeing the wisdom in this decision and knowing these websites have been designed to accommodate large publications, I knew this was going to be an ominous task. Several of my publications require updating to change my resident location, phone number, and update with current 2014 research material.

Many of you may ask, “what about posting these books on [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) or the Church’s website at Family Tree” and the answer is simple...both of these websites has a size limit as to what you can upload into their database. Some of my books are over 800 pages and exceeds their upload requirements.

Some of you may ask, “what about the lost revenue of \$35.00 you have been receiving for these publications”. The \$35.00 as you already know, never was intended to compensate me for the travel, expense, research or time of compiling this material but the fee was to compensate me for the time, effort, cost and postage of creating cd’s as hard copies.

Since, no one in my family knows how I create these books, nor do they have the interest to learn, then posting them online for free to interested parties will not only help preserve these publications but will help interested researchers long after I have left this earth.

If I am fortunate, I should be able to get the following posted on those websites...

**[1] All 60 volumes of the P ratt P rogenitor P apers S eries...**

This series is a collection of descendency charts, family group records, legal documentation, census, deeds, newspaper, birth and death records, including Cradle to Grave (C2G) Profiles where applicable, on one specified ancestor and all known descendants for a specified number of generations. The P P P are light on speculation and assumptions, heavy on factual documentation.

**[2] All 2 books of the The Pratt Chronicles...**

These books offer an in-depth biography on one individual’s life encompassing all known factors such as music, inventions, movies, family births, deaths, marriages, legal documents, occupations, pictures, maps, mementos, world history, US history and economic conditions reported on a yearly basis.

**[3] All 11 Courses of the Genealogical Institute Master Accreditation of the Genealogical Institute (M.A.G.I.) Courses...**

These courses were developed over the years to assist the novice as well as the professional in all manners pertaining to family history research. Written in easy to read format with detailed explanations concerning various subjects of interest to family history researchers.

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- [4] 20 or more articles of the **“VIEW FROM THE MAST COMPOSITIONS...”**...

Over the years I have found it necessary to write articles concerning observations of family history, what I call personal artifacts. These reports, articles and short stories are contained in this section labeled...View From the Mast Compositions. Having a unique perspective from the top of mast on the sailing ship of Discovery, I have sailed through the waters of research for the last 38 years. These articles were designed to bring to the attention of family historians some unusual details I have witnessed during my voyage.

- [5] 300 or more of the **Cradle to Grave (C2G) Profiles** (C2G)...

The Cradle to Grave Profile (C2G) documents an individual's life from the cradle to the grave. All known research material concerning that individual is represented in a family group sheet format. These C2G profiles are presented to the researcher within a family group sheet detailing the husband, his spouses and all known children including their profiles if processed. Regardless of how many times the subject has been married, the researcher receives a full report on all known spouses and children.

- [6] 10 or more books of the **LITERARY HISTORY SERIES...**

This collection contains rare books concerning family history written by various authors...many who are deceased. These books were bought over the years and now enjoy the status of a rare find in any genealogical library. Some of these books have been formatted in the .pdf format, others as a hard copy of the original book.

- [7] 10 or more books of the **VITAL TEXT SERIES...**

This section covers public vital records. Including marriage records, deeds, census records, births, deaths, probate and indexes to public records. The counties of Missouri covered are as follows; Crawford, Washington, Franklin, Gasconade, St. François, Ste. Genevieve, and Jefferson counties.

- [8] Several books of the **Pratt Archive Collections...**

This Collection comprises of a series of books containing cemetery records, family histories, biographies and various books by individual authors.

- [9] Several books created in the **ANCESTRAL FAMILY HISTORY OF...**

This book showcases a selected individual usually a living descendant, detailing their direct line ancestors as far as the research has been completed. This type of format is known as an enhanced pedigree chart. These books contain as many as 10 to 70 generations limited only by the number of ancestors of our primary individual. Whereas, pedigree charts list only the vitals on an individual, these books generate all known notes, articles, legal documents and if applicable, Cradle to Grave (C2G) Profiles on each and every direct line ancestor and their spouses.

These publications will be posted to the following website...

<https://openlibrary.org/people/floydpratt59/lists>

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Copy the whole address then paste it into the internet address bar. Then once it is open, create a shortcut on your desktop for easy access.

By keeping track of this website, you will see my publications as I make them available and you will be able to read, copy, listen and download these publications to your computer.

Open Library is where I originally posted the promotional flyers and when I change the status of those books to “read”, Open Library will link you to [www.internetarchive.org](http://www.internetarchive.org) where the actual book is stored and when you request to read one of my books, then you will have access.

If you ever lose the address listed above, just go to [www.openlibrary.com](http://www.openlibrary.com) and find my name in the author’s section and they will give you a list of my posted publications. I currently have 31 publications listed but they have not been converted to “read” status as of yet.

I figure it will take several years for me to process and prepare these books for online status so be patient. However, not knowing if I have time to post all these books, If you would like to have a copy before I get these posted...if your email can handle the size of these books, then let me know what you are interested in and I will try to email them to you.

You are probably thinking what a noble and honorable act of kindness and generously this is for me to have worked so hard to create these books and then to give them away. I am but only doing what the Savior has requested...Mathew 19:19,20,21 <http://biblehub.com/matthew/19-20.htm>

*“**16**And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? **17**And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments. **18**He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, **19**Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. **20**The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet? **21**Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me. **22**But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions.”*

Since I consider myself rich and wealthy in Family History knowledge concerning thousands of people, as a member of the Lord’s church; The Church of Jesus Christ of Later Day Saints and one of his ordained High Priest, then no less should be required of me than to share my most valuable possessions of family history knowledge for the benefit of my fellow man.

I thank all of you, it has been fun and I look forward to your emails and inquiries.

Humbly,

Floyd Thomas Pratt F.H.C., M.A.G.I.  
17 November 2014